Mass Rapid Transport Schemes for National Capital Region

3858. DR. Y. LAXMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various Mass Rapid Transport Schemes for National Capital Region to minimise population pressure on Delhi;

(b) the amount required for each scheme and the share of the member States of NCR;

(c) whether such schemes were presented before and approved by the NCR Board; and

(d) the reaction of member States and steps taken by them to make suitable provisions in their respective budgets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) There is no Mass Rapid Transport Scheme for National Capital Region as such. However, NCR Planning Board has drawn up a Functional Plan for transport sector to decrease population pressure on Delhi. The Schemes identified in the Functional Plan are as under:

SCHEME	Cost (Rs. in Crores)
(i) Upgradation of 5 existing National Highways	540
(ii) Construction of 4 expressways	3450
(iii) Development of 4 lane regional grid roads	630
(iv) Development of Perimeter Rail-Cum-Road Transport corridor around Delhi	1000
(v) Development of Regional Rapid Transit System:	
(A) Dedicated rail tracks upto Delhi Metropolitan Areas (DMA) towns	960
(B) Dual track along the northern portion of the ring rail in Delhi	370
(C) Additional rail tracks along Ghaziabad-Meerut, Ghaziabad-Khurja & Faridabad-Palwal	500
(D) North-South Underground rail corridor in Delhi.	2200
(E) Elevated Expressway over ring road in Delhi	750
(F) High Speed Tramway System in Delhi	3400
Total	13800

The share of Member States are as follows:—

(i) Government of Delhi	2610
(ii) Government of Haryana	560
(iii) Government of Uttar Pradesh	373
Total	3543

(c) and (d) The Board has approved the Functional Plan. However, no specific budget provisions have been intimated by any member State except the Government of NCT of Delhi which is making suitable budget provisions for the Delhi MRTS project.

Identification of Land for Kabristan

3859. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2578 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st December, 1995 and state the details of the alternative site for Kabristan for Muslim Community identified in Laxmi Nagar area in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): The alternative site for Kabristan has been identified in the West of Marginal Bund Road in the Yamuna River Bed opposite Geeta Colony. The site however, involves change of land use and the Ministry is seized of the matter.

Lease of Spare Capacity of Satellites

3860. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the spare capacity on our satellite orbiting the earth;

(b) whether this spare capacity is being leased;

(c) if so, to whom and in what manner;

(d) how much foreign exchange would be earned on this account; and

(e) the steps being taken to expand the satellite programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) At present two satellites (IRS-1B and IRS-1C) under IRS system and four satellites (INSAT-1D), INSAT-2A, INSAT-2B, INSAT-2C) under INSAT system are in orbit providing operational services. As regards the remote sensing satellite, in view of the orbiting nature of these satellites (which revolve around the earth once every 104 minutes), there is some capacity of these spacecraft which can be used for imaging other parts of the world. In order to take advantage of this capability, Department of Space, through its commercial wing, Antrix Corporation Limited, has tied up with an American company EOSAT, for the global marketing of the IRS capacity. Presently, three ground Stations in the world—Hyderabad (India), Norman (USA) and Neustralitz (Germany) are accessing IRS satellites regularly and this constitutes about 40% of its maximum possible capacity.

As regards the INSAT satellites, the total capacity available as of now is 57 C-band transponders, seven S-band transponders, three Kuband transponders, one S-band mobile communications transponder and three data relay transponders. Apart from these, INSAT-2A and 2B also carry very High Resolution Radiometer for meteorological imaging purposes.

In the case of remote sensing satellites, there is no leasing arrangement possible as in the case of communication (INSAT) satellites. In regard to the INSAT satellites, the entire capacity has been made available to Department of Telecommunications and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Data Relay Transponders are being used by India Meteorological Department. The transponders are being used for providing a variety of services including long distance telephony and data services, VSAT services, Remote Area Communications, National and Regional Television distribution and broadcasting, education, development communications, training of rural development functionaries, Radio networking, disaster warning, meteorological data dissemination, etc.

(d) In respect of IRS satellites, the expected foreign exchange earning is about US $ 1 Million per annum.

As regards the INSAT satellites, the INSAT capacity is being used for providing domestic services only by the Department of Telecommunications and Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and hence foreign exchange is not earned through these operations. However, the